

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 322

Supporting the goals of National Infertility Awareness Week® to raise awareness about the disease of infertility and the challenges men and women face in building a family, including protecting fertility, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 19, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mrs. MYRICK, and Mrs. CAPPS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals of National Infertility Awareness Week® to raise awareness about the disease of infertility and the challenges men and women face in building a family, including protecting fertility, and for other purposes.

Whereas RESOLVE: the National Infertility Association is celebrating its 18th annual National Infertility Awareness Week® during the week of November 4–10, 2007;

Whereas infertility is defined as the inability to conceive after 1 year of unprotected intercourse or 6 months if the woman is over age 35, the inability to carry a pregnancy to live birth, or the inability to conceive due to sterilizing

medical treatments such as chemotherapy, radiation, or surgery;

Whereas infertility is a disease which affects men and women and is a female condition in 35 percent of the cases, a male condition in 35 percent of the cases, a combined condition of the couple in 20 percent of the cases, and unexplained in 10 percent of the cases;

Whereas infertility is different for each person who faces it, and the most important thing a person must do is to be informed about the disease;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States has 7.3 million men and women with infertility, constituting 12 percent of women of reproductive age, or 1 in 8 couples;

Whereas approximately 140,000 cancer patients diagnosed annually during their reproductive years will undergo potentially permanently sterilizing medical treatments;

Whereas during the last decade, health care providers have made great strides in the ability to diagnose and treat infertility as well as preserve fertility;

Whereas infertility is a medical problem that may be treated;

Whereas at least 50 percent of those who complete an infertility evaluation will respond to treatment with a successful pregnancy;

Whereas some infertility problems respond with higher or lower success rates;

Whereas those who do not seek help have a “spontaneous cure rate” of about 5 percent after a year of infertility; and

Whereas it is important that infertility patients have access to educational programs across the United States on a variety of family-building options, including assisted reproductive technologies, adoption, third-party reproduction, and child-free living: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That—

2           (1) the House of Representatives—

3               (A) recognizes that infertility is a disease;

4               (B) recognizes that knowledge about infertility will help people make educated decisions about family building whether through medical intervention, adoption, or deciding not to have children;

5               (C) commends RESOLVE: the National Infertility Association and other national and community organizations for their efforts to promote greater public awareness about the disease of infertility; and

6               (D) supports the goals of National Infertility Awareness Week® to raise awareness about the disease of infertility and the challenges men and women face in building a family; and

7           (2) it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the Federal Government has a responsibility—

1           (A) to endeavor to raise awareness and im-  
2           prove education about infertility, fertility side  
3           effects, and fertility preservation options;

4           (B) to encourage research that will im-  
5           prove infertility treatments and outcomes and  
6           fertility preservation technologies; and

7           (C) to continue to consider ways to im-  
8           prove access to information on infertility and  
9           fertility preservation options.

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